

A NEW SPECIES OF *BELONUCHUS* NORDM. (COL. STAPHYLINIDÆ)

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Belonuchus schaefferi n. sp.

Head black, quadrate, but slightly wider than the prothorax, with a small number of large, sparse, foveiform punctures scattered laterally; median line impressed apically and becoming feeble basally; mandibles long, slender, curved at apical third, straight basally; antennæ with the three basal joints elongate, shining, subimpunctate, micro-aciculate, glabrous, excepting scattered bristles; first joint but slightly longer than the two following; second joint shorter than third; joints four to eleven opaque, finely and densely punctate, bristled, and with very fine, dense, secondary pubescence; fourth joint quadrate; joints five to ten transverse; eleventh joint slightly longer than wide, emarginate apically; gular sutures diverging anteriorly from a point at apical portion of basal third, just within the apical third the sutures abruptly become nearly parallel to the basal suture of the mentum; gula with large setigerous puncture at apical edges of its lateral suture; mentum subtruncate, and with setigerous puncture at apical third of side margin; gula, genæ, mentum, oral portions and dorsal surface of the head very finely and regularly micro-aciculate; eyes pale yellow, very finely faceted, transverse, about twice their longest diameter from the base of the head. *Prothorax* black, slightly longer than wide, slightly narrower than head, widest at apical third; sides slightly converging towards the base, nearly straight; the base evenly rounded; shining, iridescent, micro-aciculate, with discal series of five punctures; first puncture close to apical margin, separated from first of following four by twice its own diameter; second, third, and fourth but their own diameters apart; fifth about three times its diameter from fourth, and just behind middle of disc; basal angles with an irregular row of coarse, foveiform punctures; finely margined and with the lower inflexed margin gradually joining the upper marginal line just before the apical angle, furthest separated from upper margin at basal third. *Scutellum* black, equilateral, with close-set coarse but shallow punctures, impunctate at margins and apex, micro-aciculate. *Elytra* red, wider than thorax, longer than wide, punctures fine and widely separated, with short, sparse, yellow, inclined pubescence on scutellar area and side margins, scattered setæ not evident. *Abdomen* black, deeply margined, shining, iridescent, micro-aciculate; third dorsal widest, thence tapering feebly to apex; punctures fine, sparse, and irregular, asperulate; pubescence sparse, pale yellow to dark brown, inclined, longer than elytral hairs, scattered setæ not evident; sixth ventral segment with very feeble, broad, sinuation. *Under-surface* black, shining, iridescent, micro-aciculate; punctures fine, sparse, irregular, asperu-

late, notably more dense and regularly placed than the dorsal system. *Legs* femora and tibiae black, tarsi deep castaneous-brown. *Length Holotype*, 14.5 mm.; *Paratype*, 13 mm.; *width Holotype*, 2.5 mm.; *Paratype*, 2.2 mm.

Holotype, Texas: Brownsville (F. Armstrong); in the Chas. A. Schaeffer Collection.

Paratype, same data; in author's collection.

Remarks: *Holotype* has the left mesothoracic leg missing: *Paratype* lacks both mesothoracic legs.

The sexes of the specimens have not been determined, but they both seem to be of the same sex (probably male, as evidenced by the apically sinuato-truncate sixth abdominal segment).

This species seems at once recognizable from our species having red elytra and the entire body black. From a specimen determined as *B. ephippiatus* Say it differs by its smaller size, less robust form, less punctate thorax, and by its totally different gula habitus. In *ephippiatus* the gular sutures diverge at the oral slope, and the mentum has its setigerous punctures in the apical angles themselves. From *B. punctiventris* Casey it may be recognized by its more elongate form, its shining, iridescent, and more sparsely punctured abdomen, the elytra are longer than wide, and it exhibits a more extreme form of gula development. Should the types prove to be males, the feeble sexual characters would at once distinguish this new species from *punctiventris*. Its larger size and comparatively more parallel form, greater number of punctures in the pronotal series, and different coloration of the legs separates *schaefferi* from *laticeps* Casey, *jacobianus* Casey, and *texanus* Casey. It may also be known from *jacobianus* and *texanus* by its coarsely punctate scutellum. If males, the sexual characters of the abdomen most approximate those found in *B. texanus*.

It is with considerable pleasure I dedicate this species to that most obliging and untiring of Entomologists, Mr. Charles A. Schaeffer, of the Brooklyn Museum, N. Y. Naming this beetle in his honor but poorly shows the affection I hold for him; it is the addition of one more "schaefferi" to our faunal list which already contains so many thus named in honor and admiration by his numerous friends.